

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS E. HARDY
AND ANN CESTARO

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention Thomas E. Hardy of Prospect Park, New Jersey and Ann Cestaro of Totowa, New Jersey. Tom and Ann were honored at the Passaic Valley Elks Lodge 2111 Awards Dinner.

Tom was born on December 16, 1947 in Paterson, New Jersey. As a resident of Paterson, he attended the local public schools, including P.S. No. 5 and Central High School, where he graduated in 1965. Upon graduating from high school, Tom was drafted into the United States Navy and served his country with honor.

As an Aviation Gunners Mate, 2nd Class during the Vietnam War, Tom received numerous medals and commendations, including the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Navy Unit Commendation, and the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (Korea). He was honorably discharged in 1970.

After leaving the U.S. Navy, Tom decided to further his education. He attended Southwestern College from 1970 to 1972, earning an Associate's degree in Finance. From 1973 to 1976, he attended San Diego State, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance. Upon graduating from San Diego State, Tom then attended Florida State, and in 1980 earned an M.B.A. degree in Finance.

During the years 1970 to 1982, he worked for Martin Marietta, in both California and Florida. Starting out as a senior buyer, Tom worked his way up to become chief of procurement, responsible for purchasing and establishing out-of-town representation for the company. In 1982, Tom came back to New Jersey and was employed by the Kearfott Guidance and Navigation Corporation. As a senior buyer, he was responsible for contracts relating to computer hardware and software, as well as government contracts. Tom also was responsible for the inspection of facilities, production ability, and financial worthiness of all sub-contractors utilizing company and customer personnel. In 1994, Tom was employed as a senior buyer by DRS Military Systems of Oakland. He was responsible for the procurement of materials for the ASVS program, and operating on strict budget, was able to save the company more than \$265,000.

Tom was a Scout Master from 1986 to 1989 for BSA Troop 2, St. Paul's Church, Prospect Park. He is a member of V.F.W. Post 5084, Elmwood Park and has been a member of the Passaic Valley Elks Lodge since 1991. As an active member of the Elks, Tom has served as Memorial Service Chairman, Parade Chairman, Charity Ball Chairman, and Flag Chairman. He is also the Lodge's Past President and Exalted Ruler.

Ann Cestaro is a resident of Totowa, having lived there for 40 years. Having been married for 33 years, she has three married daughters and three grandchildren. She is employed by Cestaro's Furniture Refinishing, a 25 year-old family-owned business.

Ann is a member of the Passaic Valley Elks Lodge Ladies Auxiliary for 30 years. She has

served twice as President and in many other capacities. She is also active with the Veterans Committee and the Handicapped Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Tom and Ann's family and friends, and the members of the Passaic Valley Elks Lodge 2111 in recognizing the many outstanding and invaluable contributions Thomas E. Hardy and Ann Cestaro have made to our community.

HONORING THE HONORABLE
DEBBIE HORAN UPON HER RE-
TIREMENT

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of a respected and admired public servant from Florida: The Honorable Debbie Horan. Representative Horan recently announced her retirement from the Florida House of Representatives.

Representative Horan, of Key West, was first elected in 1994 at the young age of 31. While serving in the state house she has made education her top priority. For her efforts to improve education in Florida, Representative Horan was named Legislator of the Year by the Florida Association of District School Superintendents, as well as the Florida School Boards Association. Representative Horan was also recognized as the Outstanding Young Floridian by the Florida Jaycees.

For Representative Horan, her service to the people in Key West has been a great honor and a tremendous opportunity to be an advocate for better education in Florida. Although Representative Horan is leaving to spend more time with her two young daughters, Lindsey and Kelsey, I hope she will one day return to public service. She will be missed.

"MY VOICE IN OUR DEMOCRACY"

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker. I remember from my own High School days the benefit I gained from participating in the Voice of Democracy contest, and I am therefore particularly pleased to share here with our colleagues the winning Massachusetts entry in the 1997-1998 VFW Voice of Democracy scriptwriting competition.

The winner, Leah Makuch, did an excellent job of expressing her understanding of the democratic system in which we Americans are fortunate enough to live. I am sometimes disappointed that more teenagers do not take advantage of the opportunities which our democratic system offers them, and thus I was particularly pleased to read Leah Makuch's excellent exposition on this subject, and I am for this reason very happy to have a chance to make it widely available.

"MY VOICE IN OUR DEMOCRACY"

1997-98 VFW VOICE OF DEMOCRACY SCHOLARSHIP
COMPETITION MASSACHUSETTS WINNER

(By Leah Makuch)

So many parts of this world are silent. So many people are silenced by governments afraid of the power of speech, afraid of the people they seek to control. They use their governmental power against the members of their own country.

On the contrary, I live where I am allowed to speak, encouraged to speak, even required to speak by my human responsibilities. I live in a country of loud voices shouting their opinions, in a country where this is expected. I live in a democracy, and my voice counts.

On the literal level, my voice is rather quiet. Yet I have the power to speak loudly and firmly, to shout my beliefs unto listening ears. My words reverberate through the great Rocky mountains and are projected over the marquee in Times Square, carried along every television network and telephone line, even electronically transmitted to millions of computers all over America. When I choose not to buy a particular product because its manufacturer endorses something I oppose, I am speaking my message to this manufacturer. When I petition against a congressional bill, I speak my opposition loudly and clearly. And although I cannot legally vote, my voice is heard through the votes of my parents and family members. I am a member of a democracy, and it is my responsibility to make myself heard.

Here I stand, right now, on the soapbox of this cassette tape, confident that when I speak about democracy, someone is listening. The ears upon which my words fall are not deaf to my message. I am being listened to at this very moment, and my voice as an American, as a member of a democracy, is respected as being worth hearing. For this reason, if for no other, I should speak. I should speak, I must speak, for that which I believe in and against that which I oppose, because in my heart I know that someone will hear my words. I live in a great democratic puzzle, and my piece fits where no other can. I am not excluded because I am young. I am included because I am worth listening to.

The American Heritage Dictionary defines democracy as "the common people, considered as the primary source of political power." I am a member of this common people, this source of power. What other united, non-democratic peoples would not scoff at my words proclaiming myself as such? This democracy in which I live sees me as this, however. This democracy recognizes my voice as a consumer, future voter, a thinker, and, most importantly of all, as a human being.

As a human being, I have been granted inalienable rights, most notably the rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Primarily, my right to life. Is my life complete, if I have no say in how it is led? Therefore, my voice is a central part of my right to life. I have the right to liberty. This liberty is a liberty of the mind, heart, and soul, a liberty to make my wishes known and live in fear of being persecuted. My voice is my liberty. I have the right to the pursuit of happiness. I have the right to seek out that which makes me happy and support it with the God-given voice inside of me. My voice is the means by which I can pursue my happiness. Therefore, with my voice being a central theme in my rights as a human being, I have four primary inalienable rights: life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness, and the voice by which to fulfill these. My voice is my right as a human being.

On face value, it sounds like a right that can be taken lightly. Freedom of speech.

This first amendment should read: "responsibility of speech." I have the right and the responsibility to speak in support of goodness and truth, to speak for those who have no voices.

By these standards, who would oppose this democracy? Who would oppose a family of people with voices, who exercise their natural rights and speak directly to their government for the good of all? My voice in our democracy speaks loudly, and with the same weight as all other voices carry, whether they belong to bodies older, younger, or of a different color than my own. It baffles me why so many people have no pressing desire to become a citizen of this fine democracy. The chance to have a voice in one's own country, to influence the world with what one has to say, is a powerful opportunity. Presented to many countries of the world, this tantalizing chance would be fought for like it was at our country's birth, when the first Americans would not let their voices go unheard. How fortunate to live in a country where lives are not lost searching for their voices!

I am lucky to live in such a democracy. I am fortunate to be able to speak without fear of persecution, to voice my message to the world. So many voiceless people do not have this chance. And as I speak on the importance of my voice and the voice of others, I have already made the first step . . . and I am being heard.

SUNSHINE IN THE COURTROOM

SPEECH OF

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1252) to modify the procedures of the Federal courts in certain matters, and for other purposes:

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Chairman, I am strongly opposed to H.R. 1252, the Judicial Reform Act, but would like to say a few words about one provision of the bill that merits strong bipartisan support.

I refer to Section 8 of the bill, which would allow Federal appellate judges, in their sole discretion, to permit televised transmission of court proceedings. It would also allow Federal district court judges to permit televised proceedings on a three-year experimental basis.

Americans have always taken a strong interest in the workings of the justice system. Yet those who have had little direct exposure to the process derive their impressions largely from fictional courtroom dramas and sensational coverage of high-profile trials. It is little wonder that many lack a proper understanding of the process by which justice is meted out in our society, and hold in scant regard the judicial officers upon whom the integrity of that process depends.

Cameras in the courtroom offer the public an alternative: an unfiltered, unedited, unvarnished glimpse of the judicial process as it really is. Like C-SPAN, which enables viewers to interpret legislative proceedings for themselves, free of intrusive commentary, televised trials allow viewers to make their own judgments regarding the fairness of the judge, the competence of counsel, the credibility of witnesses, and the quality of the evidence pre-

sented. Through first-hand observation, the average citizen can develop a greater respect for the requirements of due process, and a fuller appreciation of the importance of an independent judiciary in preserving the rule of law.

The 48 states that permit broadcast coverage of court proceedings have also found that the presence of cameras has a salutary effect on the proceedings themselves, exposing the trial process to public scrutiny and encouraging fair play, professionalism and decorum. Even judges who were hesitant to authorize television coverage have generally found the experience to be a positive one. Concerns that the media would detract from the solemnity of the proceedings and would violate the sensibilities of the participants have generally proven to be unfounded.

As a district attorney, I strongly supported the introduction of cameras into Massachusetts courtrooms, and chose to participate in the pilot program which Massachusetts undertook in the 1980s. In fact, I prosecuted the first case to go to trial under the program in 1980. The Massachusetts experiment was an enormous success, and led to the adoption of a court rule instructing judges to permit electronic coverage of public proceedings, subject to various limitations designed to ensure fairness to the parties and to safeguard the integrity of the proceedings.

From 1991–93, the Judicial Conference of the United States conducted a pilot program in six U.S. district courts and two U.S. courts of appeals which yielded similar results. A 1994 evaluation by the Federal Judicial Center concluded that cameras should be permitted in all Federal civil proceedings.

Naturally, there are some cases in which trial participants have an overriding need for anonymity, and in such cases the judge must have the discretion to bar cameras from the courtroom. Some 15 years after that first televised trial, I was the prosecutor in a highly publicized trial involving the murder of two women at a family planning clinic. In order to protect the victims' families and witnesses who were clinic patients and employees, I filed a motion asking the court to exercise its discretion to exclude cameras from the trial. The judge granted our motion based on the special circumstances of the case.

The bill provides for such situations by giving Federal judges unfettered discretion to exclude cameras at any time and for any reason.

Mr. Chairman, an educated and informed citizenry is essential to a healthy, functioning democracy. This measure will enhance public understanding of a central pillar of our democracy, and deserves our support. While I regret that it was attached to a highly controversial bill whose other provisions I could not support, I very much hope that it can be included elsewhere on our legislative agenda.

HONORING ANTHONY HARRIS ON
THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF
STONE'S RESTAURANT

HON. RON KLINK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a very dear friend, Anthony Harris and

a Washington, D.C. restaurant institution. On Friday, May 1, 1998 Anthony "Boss of the Sauce" Harris will celebrate the 30th Anniversary of Stoney's Restaurant.

Located at 1307 L Street in Northwest Washington, DC, Stoney's has faithfully served its clientele, 365 days a year. Over the last 30 years there have been many changes in Washington, but one thing that has remained the same is Stoney's. Whether you are there for the half priced burgers, chopped salads, or simply the conversation, Tony and his staff do not disappoint. The food at Stoney's is tremendous, the service friendly and the atmosphere is genuine. Stoney's has a familiar Pittsburgh aura, the kind of place where you always feel at home.

I applaud Anthony Harris for his hard work and dedication. His success and commitment are one that few in this fine city can claim. It is with great pride that I rise before you and ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Stoney's on their 30th Anniversary. I wish Anthony Harris, Mo, Sandy and all of the employees at Stoney's the best of luck for thirty more years of success.

TRIBUTE TO THE LINCOLN FIRE COMPANY

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the momentous occasion of the 90th Anniversary of the Borough of Totowa's Lincoln Fire Company.

The Lincoln Fire Company was formed in 1908 by a group of civic minded citizens who met at the Willard Park Hotel. The corporation papers were filed and recorded on April 23, 1908. In that same month the governing body of the Borough passed an ordinance that established the Borough of Totowa Fire Department and included the Lincoln Fire Company as one of two companies in the Borough. In July of that same year a committee was appointed for the election of a chief and assistant chief. The first elected Chief was George McCrea and the first Assistant Chief Thomas Dunkerly.

In the early years of the Company the engine was attached to passing wagons to get it to a fire. The engine carried fire pails, ladders, lanterns, hose and the firefighters' gear. Alarms were sounded by striking large steel gongs with hammers made available to citizens located in strategic areas. Whenever available, citizens who owned horses would bring them to the fire house, hitch them to the apparatus and bring it to the fire scene. For this favor a citizen was paid the sum of \$2.00.

Lincoln's headquarters have been located in what is now known as the "Old Borough Hall" since it acquired space on the ground floor of the building on Lincoln Avenue somewhere around 1910. The front part of the building housed the apparatus and the rear section of the building provided space for the Company members to hold their meetings. Additional space was acquired when the Police Department moved to the new municipal building in 1969. The meeting room has been completely remodeled and now serves as a place to hold social functions as well as meetings.